

As We See It

Harding's Illness. Wilson's Resurrection. Brisbane's... Whitney

President Harding is reported from ptomaine poisoning. In our humble opinion this is a fish story.

This reminds us that Woodrow is at it again. He wrote an article for the Atlantic Monthly on the question of revolution.

Hearing so much talk of revolution, John D. Rockefeller's pet literary poodle, Arthur Brisbane, the cleverest journalistic hireling in America, actually got frightened over the prospect of a revolution.

Cheer up, comrades. If you are worrying how to keep your papers afloat, read the cheerful little story in the Chicago Tribune of July 30th by Mr. Whitney.

Central labor bodies and local unions galore are voting to affiliate to the Federated Farmer-Labor Party.

CLASS WAR PRISONER TO SPEAK

Comrade J. O. Bentall, just recently released from Fort Leavenworth, where he served a term for opposing the war, will make his first public appearance Thursday evening, August 2nd, at Follets Hus, 2733 Hirsch Blvd.

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WORKERS WELCOME FEDERATED PARTY

STREET CAR MEN DEFEATED BY TRACTION BOSSES

By LELAND OLDS (Fed. Press Staff Correspondent.)

CHICAGO.—Chicago street railway employes will receive a pay boost of 3 cents an hour for the current year and an additional 2 cents after June 1, 1924, under the award of Mayor Dever's arbitration committee.

The nationwide organization of employers which fights against a living wage came into the field openly in this case. The backbone of the company's case was prepared and presented by a representative of the National Industrial Conference Board.

The question of the ability of the company to pay was left out by agreement on the part of management not to present evidence on this point provided the employes abstained from claiming a share in the credit for the increased productivity of men and cars in Chicago.

The award is retroactive to June 1st. During the year beginning on that date motormen and conductors will receive 73 cents an hour or a total for a full year of 313 days amounting to \$1,827.92. This is approximately \$400 short of enabling them to provide their families with a minimum health and comfort budget.

Mossaiye Olgin, Author of "The Soul of the Russian Revolution," to Speak

Tickets for the greatest picnic of the season, the Press Picnic, which will be held in Riverview on August 26, are already in great demand.

There is a very good reason for this optimism. All the Workers' Party papers in Chicago will share in the proceeds and this is quite an incentive to the radical press.

The members of the Workers' Party and readers of its papers have hit upon a happy way of helping their publications over the hot summer days. They work and play at the same time.

No doubt, by this time you are asking yourself questions about the price you will have to pay for having a jolly time. As far as we are concerned that is the important point.

hour, or \$2,003.20 a year, was conservative when compared with the requirements of this budget. An award of the full 80 cents requested was justified in terms of wage levels in other industries.

The Electric Railway Assn. figures for the country as a whole show the average increase in street railway wages to have been 110%. If Chicago men were simply given this average increase over 1913 wages they should receive at least 84 cents an hour.

Chicago street car wages fell rapidly below the cost of living during the period 1915 to 1920. In 1917 when they needed 45 cents an hour to maintain their prewar standard of living they were given only 39 cents.

This award is accepted by the employes as further evidence that arbitration is an employers' device for holding wages in check. It lines up the great employers' organizations against every wage increase which might serve as precedent for improvement in the general standards of wage earners throughout the country.

Farmer-Laborite Compliments the "Voice."

Joel Shomaker, State Chairman of the Farmer-Labor Party of the state of Washington writes: "I wish to congratulate the writing and printing staff of the Voice of Labor on the splendid issue of July 14, containing the most complete and comprehensive story and thoughtful editorial on the convention of farmers and workers that laid the foundation for the organization of the Federated Farmer-Labor Party—the coming first political party in the United States."

"In the campaign of 1922 I was a nominee of the Farmer-Labor Party for State Senator from Seattle." The above is typical of the many letters that reach this office. Our readers are urged to take advantage of this enthusiasm for the Voice of Labor and hustle for subscribers. New readers for the Voice of Labor means new converts to communism. Get busy!

Detroit Radicals to Hold Picnic. The third of the series of joint international picnics under the auspices of the Workers' Party, Friends of Soviet Russia, and the Labor Defense Council will be held at Mack Park, Detroit, Sunday, August 5th. This picnic promises to be even more successful than the preceding ones.

From Farm and Factory Exploited Greet New Alliance. Washington Farmer-Laborites Enthusiastic.

By JOEL SHOMAKER

State Chairman Farmer-Labor Party of Washington. From the farms and factories, forests and railroads, orchards and canneries—places where men and women work, in the Pacific Northwest—there seem to come voices in approval of the plan for organizing and carrying to success at the polls the new Federated Farmer-Labor Party.

The most forward and outspoken voters of the state of Washington, where the Farmer-Labor Party has gained some notable victories, appear united in their praises of the efforts of delegates in formulating a great big foundation for building the first political party of the nation.

Persons interviewed declare that we need the new party because it has come at the right time and is founded on right principles. They promise to help make the party grow to the point where it will be recognized throughout the world, as the leading political power of the United States.

Many farmers of the Northwest are begging, crying and swearing because of the low prices they have set for them by buyers and brokers, and their wheat, hay, potatoes and other products, while they note the constant jumping up of prices on things they have to buy and pay the cash for or go without.

It seems to be case of the old legend about the arrival of the fittest, and those who live and accumulate are bankers, brokers, transportation manipulators and others "who toil not, neither do they spin," yet the money-makers in old Jerusalem were as babes in the cradles of finance, when compared to those who work the people in this age.

There never has been a time in the history of the Northwest when the farmers, as a class, were so poverty-stricken as at the present writing. The wrecks of failures on the land are scattered all along the route from Chicago to the Pacific Coast, and include dry farmers, irrigation farmers, prairie farmers and farmers on logged-off lands.

The cost of production, on most all western farm crops, exceeds the selling price, is set by the system doing business with the farmers. When the man on the farm adds his taxes, losses, interest and excessive transportation charges, to the cost of his product, he finds he is working for nothing and boarding himself and family.

The day of homesteading on public lands is over, and it is a good thing for those who would follow the advice of an old editor and go West to make homes. Farms that are clear of bank mortgages, are for sale at less than cost, and many of the holdings taken over as investments by foreclosure process are worse than white elephants on the hands of monied corporations.

Is it any wonder that the farmers, who feed the people of city and country, stand ready to leave old parties and work in harmony with city wage-earners to build up a party

Los Angeles Labor Council Affiliates With New Party

The Farmer-Labor Party of Los Angeles, Calif., backed by the Central Labor Council, representing 11,000 workers, has already formally affiliated with the Federated Farmer-Labor Party, according to information now given out by Joseph Manley, National Secretary of that new political party of the working class.

Secretary Manley also states that according to reports received, there are strong favorable indications that similar action will be taken in early meetings of state labor bodies and farmers' organizations elsewhere throughout the country.

No such optimistic expressions of confidence are obtainable, however, from the local officials of Cook County

TRADE UNION EDUCATIONAL LEAGUE MEMBERS HEAR REPORT

By JOE CARROLL

The Trade Union Educational League held a special meeting July 25 in Wicker Park Hall for Chicago District to hear reports of its delegates to the Farmer-Labor Party convention of July 3, 4 and 5. The three delegates who reported were Earl R. Browder, managing editor of Labor Herald; Jack W. Johnstone, member of T. U. E. L., and Chas. Krumbain, representing the Workers' Party.

Browder's report reviewed the economic and political background of the recent convention, outlining the basic forces which had caused the convention to be assembled. Browder explained how the late concentration of the capitalistic forces had so clarified the issue that this convention and its very militant progressive action had been the natural inevitable result.

Johnstone's report dealt with the action of the Convention itself, detailing each day's progress in overcoming the opposition of the Fitzpatrick-Gompers' group, and the final defeat of that reactionary opposition.

CHICAGO SHOE WORKERS DEMONSTRATE SOLIDARITY

The shoeworkers of Chicago, organized in the Amalgamated Shoeworkers of America, held a mass meeting in Wicker Park Hall on Thursday evening, August 26, to hear Ben Legere, of Lawrence, Mass., tell the story of the gallant fight waged by the Brockton shoe workers against the shoe manufacturers and the treacherous leaders of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union.

Comrade Legere, who is on his way to attend a convention of the O. B. U. in Winnipeg, Canada, told how the local authorities in Brockton acted as the tools of the shoe barons in using the police force to crush the strike. A pervert by the name of Hanrahan, who has a jail record as long as a wet Sunday, is now Brockton City Solicitor. This stalwart upholder of law and order has among the many crimes to his discredit a most heinous one of attempting to rape a little girl still in her teens.

Food Workers Gain Members

On Friday, the 27th, the Greek members of the Amalgamated Food Workers, Hotel & Restaurant branch held a meeting in Midway Mason Temple, 2107 Cottage Grove Ave.

At this meeting 41 new Greek workers in the industry were accepted as members.

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Echoes From the Convention

By MAX SHACHTMAN

During the discussion in the Resolution's Committee appointed by the Farmer-Labor Convention, a resolution was brought forward which had as its object nothing more nor less than the exclusion of the Workers' Party.

It stated, in effect, that this convention could have nothing to do, nor could it associate itself, with any group which advocated the use of illegal methods for the replacement of this social system with any other, or which accepted extra-national or international direction or leadership; "we believe that the ballot can obtain for us any change or amendment to the existing state of government, and that force and violence were unjustified and could not be countenanced or allowed by such a bonafide convocation as had gathered here to consider ways and means for the perpetuation of conversational conferences as opposed to acting organizations.

War Patriot Gets Busy.
And so, Mr. Rodriguez, chairman of the Committee, who was once almost taken by the scruff of the neck and kicked out of the national convention of the Young People's Socialist League shortly before this country entered the war because he called upon them to be patriotic and recover J. P. Morgan's British Loan this very same Mr. Rodriguez, began denouncing the terrible communists, and their methods and tactics, and appealed to the patriots in the committee to bring in a recommendation to concur.

But in spite of his frantic and fervent appeals, liberally salted by copious references to the collection of most and punk which is called the Law, the committee voted to refer the entire resolution to the Organization Committee, for it was rightly pointed out that the resolution involved a matter of policy and as such could only be acted upon by the latter Committee.

An Indiscreet Advocate.
Then, although the Committee officially adjourned, Mr. Rodriguez was not finished. He began to peck one of 57 persons—Duncan MacDonald, who although a member of the Farmer-Labor Party had voted with the majority to refer. MacDonald correctly mentioned the fact that the Farmer-Labor Party no longer amounted to a row of stubble or a hill of air, or "words to that effect." To which truisms Rodriguez snarled back that MacDonald had not been able to maintain a unit of the Party in his own locality; and the tons of his voice when he said this, was not of the pleasantest, you may be sure.

Sleep Producers.
Now Duncan is a Scotchman. And while Scotchmen are not as a rule easily aroused, when they are aroused, someone else is put to sleep. So Duncan bent his body across the table to where Rod, stood opposite him and said:
"Listen here, Rodriguez. You've been insulting during the entire course of this convention. You've been carrying a chip on your shoulder, and when anyone carries a chip or his shoulder, someone is going to knock it off; and I'm telling you right now that I'm going to be the one to do it, too. You are not going to put that sort of stuff over on me very much longer."

He Missed a Nip of Scotch.
Advocate Rodriguez took a good look at the powerful, clenched fist of Duncan, and then took another look at Duncan's look, and with admirable swiftness decided that he was wanted elsewhere—where the atmosphere was gentler and the air flowed in smoother waves, where the probabilities of the elimination of a material witness were less favorable to the opposing counsel. In other words, Rodriguez seized his Stetson, and his umbrella and beat a strategic retreat.

A Lesson in Equality



REVIEW OF THE WEEK

By CLARISSA S. WARE
Research Department, Workers Party of America

Workers Party Tactics Won Delegates

President Weir, of the Minneapolis Trades and Labor Assembly, in reporting to his organization on the Chicago convention places the blame for the little "splitter" squarely where it belongs. The following is taken from the Minneapolis Labor Review:

President Weir made a very interesting report of the proceedings of the Federated Farmer-Labor Party. What little of a split there was, he declared was the result of the failure of the original Farmer-Labor Party to present a program. There was plenty of harmony, Weir said.

The Workers' Party was not in the majority, but their presentation of facts and program won them the great majority of the delegates. By practically a unanimous vote everyone invited to the conference was seated in the convention. Twenty-one central bodies, and two state federations were among organizations represented.

Resolutions adopted demanded release of political prisoners, abolishment of compulsory military training in the schools and recognition of the Russian and Mexican government.

In his report Weir made it plain that but a very small number of delegates had bolted the convention.

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Miners and Operators Parley.
To date the parley between the four representatives of the miners and the four representatives of the operators has resulted in a deadlock as far as the anthracite situation is concerned. The operators have made a few unimportant gestures regarding the ending of the 12-hour day in the coal fields, but are standing out against the wage increase, the check-off, and union recognition.

Under these circumstances the miners are refusing to go on record regarding their plans if at the end of the present agreement on August 1st a new agreement satisfactory to them has not been reached.

The U. S. Coal Commission.
The U. S. Coal Commission has not helped much with its report showing that out of every dollar paid by the anthracite producer in New York during last November, 56c went to the producer, 18c to the railroads, for freight, and 26c to the retail dealer. It further states that the operators are receiving nearly three times as much in profits as they were, before the war. And its recommendation that the President should have the authority to declare a national emergency in the event of a coal strike, and operate the mines raised the interesting question as to how can he do it since "the Pennsylvania license law applying to anthracite produced within the state is the stumbling block which would trip the President of the United States at this first step."—Wall Street Journal.

Either he must take the miners back on their own terms pending settlement or he must set aside the state law which requires that all the anthracite coal produced in the states shall be produced by licensed miners. As the Wall Street Journal aptly points out "Anthracite is in a different position from bituminous coal. It is produced by miners licensed by the state of Pennsylvania and those licenses cannot be improvised for strike breakers. The miners license results in making a tight monopoly of anthracite production." Unquestionably a new move to repeal this law will be made for there is the possibility of calling upon the all too obliging Supreme Court to declare the law void. But either of these legal methods of dealing with the situation would require time. If the "emergency" arises the law will be brushed aside as calmly as laws for the protection of the workers are always scrapped when they stand in the way of the power of capital to coerce labor.

Stocks of Anthracite Coal on Hand.
Today anthracite stocks on hand are reported as being 120% greater than on March 1st. The dealers are buying and storing hard coal in preparation for the possible strike.
Employment in New York State Factories for June Decreases 1%.
The report of the New York State Department of Labor indicates that the demand for labor has di-

minished. In one district where a shortage of common labor was reported it was also reported that "the un-filled demand was largely from employers who would not pay the prevailing rate of wages." The report shows a reduction of 1% in employment between May and June. Reductions were reported in the metal industries, textile industries, cotton mills, cotton finishing, knit-goods and a slight decrease in the silk industry.

13,000 Immigrants Enter During First Week in July.
With the annual quota of immigrants standing at 357,803, 13,000 entered during the first week of the new quota year, July first to seventh. Thirteen countries have already exhausted their quota for the month, which is 20% of the annual quota.

In connection with his report on the present condition, Major Henry H. Curran now in charge of Ellis Island, stated that two thirds of all the immigrants who come to America enter through the Island.

Davis, Secretary of Labor, in Europe.
Major Curran reported that Secretary of Labor, Davis—the advocate of cataloging, photographing and distribution of foreign-born workers—is planning to visit Great Britain, France, Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Jugoslavia, Italy, Turkey, Greece and other countries that supply most of our immigrants and that the Secretary started before leaving on his tour, "I shall be able to talk to them in their own languages. I worked with men from all nations when I learned enough to be able to get along." Curran had time to be a student of so many languages while at work in the steel mills. This should be another argument for the 12-hour day. There is no doubt that the Secretary of Labor will be able to get along. He has, and in carrying out his orders to arrange for the importation of contract slave labor he will only need to speak one language, that of the capitalists. The New York Herald states the policy of the capitalists in quoting approvingly Senator Cope's view of "recognizing that a common sense immigration policy service should be constructive as well as preventive. Its overseas staff should encourage worthy, desirable, and needed persons to settle here." Mr. Gary will write the specifications and Mr. Mussolini will fill the order—all arrangements to be made through Mr. Davis.

Directors of the Continental Oil Company are planning to encourage their employees to acquire stock in the company. A special meeting of the stockholders has been called to consider the matter. The development of the policy of controlling employees through selling them stock has been marked of late. The policy of giving a charity cash bonus to faithful employees has been discarded in favor of selling them stock—thereby borrowing their money and at the same time making them believe that their

interests are those of the employers. A dollar divided is an inexpensive way of "selling the workers the idea" that there is a unity of interest between him and his boss. Such well known charitable organizations as the United States Steel Corporation, the Standard Oil of New Jersey, etc., Vacuum Oil, Texas Company, Imperial Oil, the Dupont Company, and the International Harvester, have realized the value of this method of buffalading the workers.

Bacon Advises Selling Labor an Idea and not Raising Wages.
"There will be but few, if any, increases in wages in the building trades during the balance of the year. There may soon be unemployment in sections where today there is a scarcity of men."

"The wisest of our clients today are not raising wages, but are giving the utmost attention to increasing the productivity of the workers. This can be accomplished only by selling them the idea that only as more goods are produced will there be more goods to divide."

In plain English "selling them the idea" means fooling them into believing what is not true. That is the method through which the capitalists maintain their privilege of robbing the industrial workers and farmers of the greater part of what they produce.
The recent crop report forecasts that the total wheat production will be about 40,000,000 bushels less than a year ago. Almost at the same time the price of wheat started plunging downward. Today with the political leaders of the country trying to convince the farmers that they are prosperous and that the present administration has brought them this prosperity the price of wheat is still going down. The average price for wheat during the five years before the war was \$1.04%. Today, with the farmers forced to sell to meet their interest payments and notes, wheat is bringing 91c a bushel in Kansas City. The prices that the farmers must pay are over 60% higher than the prices they paid when wheat brought over a dollar a bushel. Yet, Mr. Harding talks of the prosperity of the farmer, of the help of the tariff, the credit acts, and the Grain Futures Act which was to protect speculation in wheat. Those farmers who put their faith in the so-called "Farm Block" should be about ready to forsake such saviours and organize with the industrial producers in a political party of their own. As the Wall Street Journal says: "Will the farmer acknowledge an indebtedness to the black?" Scarcely. And as for winning victories for the farmers, "Let the farmers turn to classical history and read what Pyrrus said about his victory—'another such victory, and I return to Epirus without a single soldier.'"
The newly organized Farmer-Labor Party has a farm program which should interest the disillusioned and bankrupt agricultural population. It merits their careful study.

Police and Mob Attack Labor Men

By JOSEPH W. LEIGH.

(Fed. Press Staff Correspondent.)

PORT ARTHUR, Tex.—Chained together like ferocious beasts of the forest, hands manacled behind their backs, stripped to the waist and a rawhide whip applied to their bare flesh—such was the fate meted out to James Holland, organizer Marine Transport Workers division of the I. W. W., and John Murray, a veteran of the world war, and member of the same organization, at Port Arthur last month by 10 men supposed to be members of the Ku Klux Klan and acting under orders of the chief of police.

Judge A. E. McDowell, sitting at Beaumont, had previously released Holland on a writ of habeas corpus, ruling that membership of the I. W. W. is no crime, as the organization is not unlawful. John Murray was also released by McDowell.

Tracked by Finks.
Holland and Murray returned to Port Arthur and began organizing the transport workers and those engaged in the oil industry. A city detective then informed the two men they were wanted at headquarters. Arriving at the police station they were ushered into the office of the chief of police. They were detained half an hour, and told to go down stairs to the street. When the two left the chief's office, Holland was struck a terrific blow behind the ear, which was followed by others on his head and shoulders. He raised his left arm to shield his head, when he was struck under the chin by one of the police officers with a heavy automatic revolver. Murray suffered the same treatment. At the foot of the stairs they were met by ten men. Holland says that during the interview the chief went to the window several times as if looking for someone to come down the street.

Holland and Murray were chained together by the neck. Their hands were tied behind their backs and they were forced into a waiting automobile. The party proceeded about three miles into the country and the prisoners were forced to alight. Gunny sacks were placed over their heads, their coats and shirts removed and a husky brute applied a heavy rawhide whip. Another mobbing standing near was told to "finish them."

Manacled Together.
Again they were kicked, cuffed, and then left lying on the side of the road with the chains still locked around their necks and their hands manacled. Murray managed to work his hands loose and united Holland. With a piece of steel he forced a link in the chain around his neck and separated the two. At a farm house warm water and bandages and a hack saw were secured. Both men made their way to a hospital in Galveston, where their wounds were treated. On Wednesday, fearing another attack, they left the hospital and are now with friends.

When seen by a Federated Press representative Holland showed his back covered with marks of the lash; on the left side was a wound now partly healed and covered with surgeon's gauze. His neck is still red from the marks of the chain; his throat shows the thumb and finger mark of the police officer who attempted to choke him. His legs are black and blue from kicks.

An Ex-soldier.
Murray is still in a battered condition and it is claimed that he is injured internally; Murray served with honor in the U. S. navy during the world war. He was twice wounded and to this day is suffering from a shot from the Germans in action. Port Arthur is owned by the oil interests. According to reports from I. W. W. delegates a determined effort will be made to organize Port Arthur and all of southern Texas.

Mark Twain's "War Prayer"

"O Lord our Father, our young patriots, idols of our hearts, go forth to battle—be Thou near them! With them—in spirit—we also go forth from the sweet peace of our beloved presidies to smite the foe.
"O Lord our God help us to tear the enemy to bloody shreds with our shells; help us to cover their smiling fields with the pale forms of their patriot dead; help us to drown the thunder of guns with the wounded, writhing in pain; help us to lay waste their humble homes with a hurricane of fire; help us to wring the hearts of their unoffending widows with unavailing grief; help us to turn them out rootless with their little children to wander unfriended through wastes

of their depopulated land in rags and hunger and thirst, sport of the sun-flames of summer and the icy winds of winter, broken in spirit, worn with travail, imploring Thee for the refuge of the grave and denied it—for our sakes. We implore Thee, Lord, blast their hopes, blight their bitter pilgrimages, make heavy their steps, water their way with their tears, stain the white snow with the blood of their wounded feet! We ask of One who is the Spirit of Love and who is the ever-faithful refuge and friend of all that are sore beset, and seek His aid with humble and contrite hearts. Grant our prayer, O Lord, and Thine shall be the praise and honor and glory now and for ever. Amen."

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Gompers Welcomes Socialist Turncoats With Open Arms

WASHINGTON, D. C.—With the victorious announcement that "The Socialist Party has finally accepted what has long been apparent to observing citizens," Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, greets and welcomes the Socialist turncoats, who have accepted his "non-partisan" political policy.

The welcome is contained in the July 14th A. F. of L. Weekly News Service. It is sent out under the heading, "Opponents of A. F. of L. Political Policy Change Front." It says in part:

"The Socialist Party has made a complete about-face from its attacks on the A. F. of L. non-partisan political policy.

"It now acknowledges that the trade unions are not interested in a national labor party.

"For years the Socialist party has condemned the A. F. of L. and its officials because of the trade union political-non-partisan policy."

The greeting then goes on and glorifies in the Judas act of the Socialist Party in refusing the invitation to the "Labor Party Conference" in Chicago. The Gompers' press service quotes extensively from the Socialist reply, which declares that "few of the great trade unions are ready to take the decisive step of launching a working-class party on a national scale."

To which Gompers applies this verbal salvo:

"The Socialist Party now indicates this is at last awake to public opinion and changed public policy. Their own party—or what is left of it—is now adopting the A. F. of L. policy in certain localities. . . . The tendency of the times vindicates the 'non-partisan' political policy of the A. F. of L."

Perhaps Gompers and the Socialists may get some comfort out of this brotherly embrace. They need it. And they'll need a lot more of mutual comforting with the continued growth of the Federated Farmer-Labor Party, that will wreck all of Gompers' dreams about "non-partisan" action with the old parties.

The Gompers-Socialist front against united independent political action of the workers and farmers shivers from the hour of its creation. Even the warmth of a Gompers-Hillquitian embrace cannot liquidate the frigid chill that haunts the mutual spine of this uncouth political alliance.

This Gompers' pronouncement should clear the minds of all workers. Labor must now realize that the only unity of the workers' and farmers' fight against the twin Wall Street parties is to be found beneath the standards of the Federated Farmer-Labor Party, with which every local labor union and farmers' organization should be affiliated.

International Youth Day

International Youth Day this year will be the center of a nation wide campaign against militarism and the exploitation of youthful labor.

In Chicago the League will hold an open air demonstration on Sunday, September 2, at Koelce's Electric Park, 6400 Irving Park Blvd. Every young and adult worker member should be there to help us in our campaign against Fascism, the Ku Klux Klan, the Legionnaires and Minute Men, our fight for the betterment of conditions of the vast army of youth.

Bank in St. Louis. A bank clerks' union has been formed by employees of recently opened Telegraphers' cooperative bank, Central Trades and Labor Union will launch a drive to organize the employees of the other banks of the city, according to the report of the last meeting of the central body.

The Coal Commission Report-- A Warning and a Challenge

By JAY LOVESTONE.

In accordance with the provisions of the Borah-Winslow Act, Harding appointed a "Fact-Finding Commission" to investigate the coal industry. Since the end of the last coal strike the investigators have been at work and the country has been seeing coal through the eyes of the commission; except, of course, what it has had to see in the propaganda, costing the National Coal Association \$1,500,000. With the completion of the report of the anthracite industry, half of the commission's work is over.

Salient Feature of the Report.

Rumor has it that the report was edited by Daugherty

Whether Daugherty formally and actually edited the report does not matter a straw. Anyone who carefully scrutinizes and dissects the document will find that it has Daugherty's strike breaking labor policy smeared over it. The commission proposes that the government knead the fermenting dough of discontent amongst the coal workers, with giant brutal fists. Says the report: "The President of the United States should be authorized by act of congress to declare that a national emergency exists in the event of cessation of operations and to take charge of the mines, fix the wages, and set the price to be received by the owners, subject to review by the court."

Governmental Tower Increased.

In practice this means that the President is to be clothed with still greater strike-breaking powers. Should the anthracite miners revolt against unspcakable conditions and hold the operators in check or drive them to cover, the President, without even going out of his way in the least or expending the insignificant energy of looking for a dead statute to support his anti-labor course, will be empowered to flood the mines with soldiers and conscript the workers to dig coal. In the last strike Harding ordered the governors of the coal mining states to hoist the flag over the tipple. Harding and his friends of the National Coal Association learned that bayonets could be used only to murder worker with, but not to dig coal with. The "fact-finders" are aware of this fact and therefore propose a measure which affords the entering wedge to outright industrial slavery in the coal fields.

As to the course the President would pursue in fixing wages and prices, we need but turn to the experiences of the miners in the last mine struggle. The miners were fighting to prevent a wage cut, Harding was working overtime in showering praises upon the noble "conscience" of the operators who were charging \$4 in excess of the maximum price per ton fixed by the law.

Fact-Fixers Shut Their Eyes to Needs of Workers.

The commissioners purport to be anxious to stabilize the anthracite coal industry. The means suggested to achieve this purpose make this report a classic anti-labor document. The anthracite industry is strongly monopolized. The owners are organized on a highly industrial basis. It is a close trade association of eight large companies controlled by some of the most powerful bankers in Wall Street. Yet, the commission concerns itself with devising ways and means of protecting the interests of the operators in the event of the miners putting up a successful fight against their aggression. Though the report recognizes anthracite as a public utility, it goes out of its way to disclaim any intention whatsoever to disturb in the least the sanctity of the right of the owners to exploit the working masses through the ownership of this necessity of life. On the contrary, the Commissioners here propose a plan to make more secure than ever the hold of the operators on this vital necessity of life.

High Wages Bank.

It is especially interesting to note that the commission has found that in 1920 the production of anthracite was 50 per cent larger than in 1900, though the same man power was used. When one compares this conclusion with the fact that from 1913 to 1920 the purchasing power of anthracite wages rose only 7 per cent, all the bal-

loon gossip about high wages in the anthracite industry is dispelled. In the same period the report found, according to the Federal Trade Commission, that the margin per ton was "three times the pre-war margin." The investigators go on to say that: "It appears that earnings and conditions of labor offered by the anthracite industry viewed in the aggregate have not attracted labor in the same degree as have the wages and conditions offered by other industries." Yet, the commission does not offer any plan to make the working conditions better and to pay more attractive wages. Worse than that, this august body tries to drown the gullible in a sea of figures for washing away all notions that anyone might entertain as to profiteering by the operators.

The Need for Nationalization.

This report is a veritable eye-opener. It shows plainly that the only way out for the miners lies in the nationalization of the coal industry. And here the miners cross swords with the commission, which is headed by a millionaire engineer, John Hays Hammond, friend of the Guggenheims, who are the dictators of West Virginia.

As long as capitalism prevails, the most the workers can hope for is only partial nationalization of any industry. Even this partial nationalization will be a dead letter unless there is a powerful representation of workers and farmers in the government. This partial nationalization of the coal or any industry can be realized only to the extent that the working and farming classes have political power.

When Harding appointed this fact-finding commission, he did not appoint a single representative of the workers on it. Only such representatives of the "public" as George Otis Smith, chief of the U. S. Geological Survey, and a frequent contributor to the "Coal Age," official organ of the National Coal Association; Judge Samuel Alschuler of Chicago, who complacently stood by, while the packers defied his arbitration board and slaughtered the workers; and Edward T. Devine, a professional charity worker, who turns out "social service" for the Rockefeller interests.

The Only Remedy.

The whole history of this commission is a warning and a challenge to the workers. It affords a superabundance of proof that the employing class has complete control of the government and uses it to protect its own interests. The workers cannot expect anything from this government. No one can expect a pint jar to hold a quart. The organization and activities of this commission mark another step in the direction of the increasing use of the ever-increasing centralized power of government against the working and farming masses. There is but one way in which the workers and farmers can get out of this desperate situation. They must organize themselves politically to take all the political power away from the employing class. They must, through the use of their own political power, proceed to nationalize the giant industries of the country.

The Average Weekly Wage Is \$28.33 in Illinois

CHICAGO.—The average weekly pay envelope in the factories of Illinois during June amounted to \$28.33, according to the monthly survey of the Illinois Department of Labor. This would mean annual earnings of \$1,478 if the average employe could be sure of 52 weeks' work at this rate. The increase since July, 1922, amounts to \$4.61 a week, or nearly 20%.

Steel News

A New Merger.

A recent issue of \$40,000,000 worth of 6 per cent bonds of the Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company will provide the necessary \$38,000,000 to complete the merger of the Youngstown Steel Company with the Steel and Tube Company of America. The merged companies will form the third largest steel manufacturing corporation in the country. And the capitalists are organizing, uniting their forces and closing their ranks.

The announcement of a new campaign to organize the steel workers will be welcomed by labor everywhere. The steel industry has been the stronghold of the open shop and of the blackest reaction industrially. The steel workers, 24% of whom work 12 hours a day, are one of the most exploited sections of the American working class. In 1919 the Steel Workers were organized and under the leadership of William Z. Foster, made a splendid stand for their rights to organize and win better conditions for themselves. However, the struggle was unsuccessful because, as has been pointed out by the leader of the strike in his book, the jealousies and craft interests of the large number of international unions made it impossible to hold together the workers in face of the dividing tendencies of craft organization. The lesson of the 1919 strike seems to be that if the steel workers are to have an effective fighting organization it must be an industrial union including all steel workers irrespective of race, creed, place of birth, degree of skill, or political faith. Such an organization in the steel industry could bring the First Trust to its knees, and a victory in the steel industry would give the whole organized labor movement new courage and fighting spirit for the struggle against the bosses.

The Railroad—Wages and Workers, Operators and Rail Labor Board. Wages of the Big Four are now governed by agreements with individual roads which expire at various times from October 1923 to January 1924. The railway conductors and trainmen have announced that their organizations would demand an increase in wages upon the expiration of their present agreement on October 1st.

To date the policy of the rail executive has not been stated, whether they will arrive at a settlement with the Brotherhoods or will refer to matter to the Rail Labor Board. But there seems to be a growing feeling on the part of the operators that they stand a better chance if they act through the official channels of the Board. The recent decision making permanent the Wilkerson-Daugherty injunction and restraining approximately 400,000 rail workers from interference in any manner with the operation of the railroads, will naturally encourage the operators to place their faith in the governmental agency.

MINN. FEDERATION WANTS POLITICAL ACTION

DULUTH, Minn.—Unanimous demand for independent political action by the A. F. of L. was made by the Minnesota State Federation of Labor in its closing convention session here. The convention came out for a party of city workers and farmers organized with the help of the A. F. of L. The delegate to the Portland convention was instructed to work for the abandonment by the A. F. of L. of its nonpartisan policy of backing "friends of labor" in the old parties and to have the organization come out for a third party.

All officers were re-elected by the federation. Amalgamation, endorsed last year, was the subject of hot debate, but did not result in further action. Resolutions favoring co-operation, restriction of immigration, state old age pensions and a federal soldier bonus financed by an excess profit tax were approved by the delegates.

NEW YORK.—Three negroes on road gangs in North Carolina have recently been shot by convict guards, according to a report by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The Armco Spirit Or the Battle Between the Red and Blue

By MAX LERNER.

Guided by a spirit of benign benevolence and godly good will, the directors of the American Rolling Mill Association in Ironton, Ohio (I speak of Ironton because it was there it was called to my attention) woke up one bright and early morning and jumped out of bed with the inspiring cry of "Armco"—I have found it. And "Armco" it was.

What is "Armco"? To the reader who rolls this choice morsel of a word along his tongue in wonderment we must recommend that now famous work published by the above company entitled "Armco Spirit" (American Rolling Mill Association Spirit) or to paraphrase it in our own vulgar language "How the steel workers, employed by this association, can be more faithful to their employers."

Acts of benevolence have a habit of asserting themselves pretty strongly after pretty strong nightmares—at least so in the case of steel employers who seem about the most stupid aggregation of employers we have in this country. At any rate it seems the American Rolling Mill Association mill owners looked about them and decided that if they did not find some means of forestalling it, the slaves who worked for thirty and thirty-five cents an hour as well as those who worked for more, might begin to get a little weary of their fat pay envelopes and demand more—yes, might even go so far as forming some kind of an organization, a union after a while—you never can tell what might happen in these days of the Bolsheviks, you know. Not being overly stupid for the industry, "Armco" was decided upon to at least tide the company over the rough roads of at least a temporary period—the period of a comparative scarcity of labor—and perhaps over other periods when wages would go down even further and conditions would become much worse.

"Armco"—a dainty morsel, that rolls deliciously along the tongue—presto, why not start "Armco" with a symbolization of it in the flesh—begin here with a Barbecue—fine roast meat and other delicacies, with a rollicking good time for the boys and their wives to finish it off—what better way to take their minds off their slim purses, their hard days' toll, the fear of unemployment and an empty stomach tomorrow. No sooner said than done. That is, done, so far as the decision. The method—there again the steel barons showed unusual vision for the trade—what better method than to make their workers pay for it themselves out of their own slender purses—no use wasting even a little money when you can make the slave pay for his own funeral as well as dig his own grave and like it. So the morning after the

THE CARDINAL'S CURSE

There was a time when priestly curses were taken seriously. Even though the people are not yet free from superstition a holy man's maledictions have no more effect on the average person than the oaths of a mule driver. We reprint herewith the "Cardinal's Curse," at the request of one of our readers:

The lines are from the "Jackdaw of Rheims" and belong to the Ingoldisby Legends. "The cardinal rose with a dignified look. He called for his candle, his bell and his book! In holy anger and pious grief He solemnly cursed that rascally thief! He cursed him at board, he cursed him in bed, From the sole of his foot to the crown of his head, He cursed him in sleeping that every night He should dream of the devil and wake in a fright. He cursed him in eating, he cursed him in drinking, He cursed him in coughing, in sneezing and winking, He cursed him in sitting, in standing, in lying, He cursed him in walking, in riding, in flying, Never was heard such a terrible curse But what gave rise To no little surprise Nobody seemed a penny the worse!"

steel barons jumped out of bed with the cry of "Armco," they again woke up bright and early with the scheme of putting "Armco" across.

Coming down to the plant smiling in very genial fashion upon every one, they summoned unto them John, Jack, Jim and Mike, whom they knew to be open to "reason" and perhaps not too strong in resisting the wiles of their masters. John, Jack, Jim and Mike were told that it was proposed to start a little benevolent society for the good of the community and the country—a benevolent society with the usual benefits such an organization promises, except that in this case some of the benefits to be given out were contingent on length of employment by the association, etc.—everyone can easily imagine what the etetra meant. It was proposed that two teams be organized, one team to be called the Red and the other the Blue. The campaign for membership was to last for a certain length of time—initiation fees into the organization was set at either \$1.50 or \$1.75. I don't exactly recall which, but it doesn't matter much so long as we know that this feature of it was not neglected. At the end of the required time the group which had, in the campaign of self accumulation, the least membership accredited to its respective color, that group would have to chip in a half dollar or so to help pay for the Barbecue. Of course the company was going to be quite impartial as to which group it felt should get the more members in, but as to anyone not joining, through either group, well that was quite another matter. You understand, steel barons don't believe in coercion, but anybody who can't see the great benefits derived from uniting with his fellow men in such a society, anyone who does not appreciate the Armco spirit in such ruthless fashion as to live up to its every tenet, well, such men are not fit to stand up with those fine men of our nation who thoroughly live up to the Armco spirit (or at least make a show of doing it).

And so John and Jim started the Blues in the emulative field of bringing more membership into the great Armco organization, and Mike and Jack took upon themselves the inglorious name of Red, to do their best to get the faithful into that fold. The merry ball is still a-rolling. God bless 'em!

Ironton, Ohio, is a small town—there isn't overmuch to do generally in the way of excitement—what greater task or joy to fill the few hours of rest, in order to keep the mind from straying to the bare conditions of ones home, to the rate of pay and the ten hours of back breaking, nerve racking work. The great battle of the Spirit of Armco is on—and it shall long be remembered.

Harding Breaks His Word.

NEW YORK.—"One year ago you promised us release of all political prisoners in sixty days. When will this be done?" The above telegram has been sent to President Harding at Valdez, Alaska, by the American Civil Liberties Union.

The Socialist Party and the Farmer-Labor Convention

By JOE CARROLL.

We are wondering what may be the significance of the "official" attitude displayed during the late convention of the Farmer-Labor Party, in view of this statement made by Otto Branstetter, Executive Secretary of the Socialist Party during its last convention:

"This convention marks the beginning of a new era for us. We no longer have a left wing, the extreme radical elements having left the party." The end in view, he said, is the creation of an American Labor Party similar to the British Labor Party, to include the Socialist Party, the Farmer-Labor Party, the Non-Part-

isan League, labor unions and cooperative societies.

The Socialist Party declined to send delegates to the Farmer-Labor Convention; and the renegade socialist Rodriguez as one of the "official" opposition, advocated formation of "an American Labor Party similar to the British Labor Party," as alternative to the Federated Farmer-Labor Party which was formulated in this convention. Who inspired Rodriguez? It should be noted that the Executive Committee of the Socialist Party met in Chicago during the Farmer-Labor convention. Question: Was Rodriguez the secret agent of the S. P. in this attempt to disrupt the convention?



PULLMAN LABOR PICNIC
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Sunday, Aug. 19, at 2 P.M.
Games with Prizes, Entertainment, Tug-of-War, Music, Dance
JOHN EDWARDS WILL SPEAK ON "A POLITICAL PARTY FOR LABOR"
All Workers Welcome. Admission 35c

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The Last Revolution

A Comic Opera for Proletarians, in Two Acts.
Book and Lyrics by Michael Gold and J. Ramirez.
Music by Rudolf Liebach.

Time: The year 19...
Place: The Morganville Capitalist Colony, last capitalist outpost in the Soviet Republic of the World.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

JOHN PIERPONT Last of the capitalists; partners in the monopoly corporations that control everything in Morganville.

FELIX DOOLITTLE **GEORGE SMITH** **HENRY CABOT VAN DAM** **JULIUS GUGGENWALD** **MRS. HAWKINS-PIERPONT** **ERNESTINE PIERPONT** **MRS. VAN DAM** **JUDGE BUNK** **SENATOR BUNK** **BISHOP BUNK** **GENERAL BUNK** **ROSE COHEN** **TOM PETERS** **FRANK MILLS** **OLAF NANSEN** **MIKE MURPHY** **LEMUEL CRIMPERS** **MRS. CRIMPERS** **GIUSEPPE TRENTINI**

Wife of John Pierpont
Their daughter
Wife of Henry Cabot Van Dam
A housemaid
A factory foreman (on good terms with Rose)
A factory worker
A factory worker
A factory worker
A labor misleader
His young wife
Delegate from the Soviet Chorus of Housemaids, Henry Dubbs, Juniors, Newsboys, etc.

(Continued from last week.)

MIXED CHORUS:
O, the spy! O, the spy!
Gosh, how we love that guy!
If something caused him to droop and die
We would sit and pry all day.

(Exit all but capitalists and Bunk brothers, who now come out from in hiding.)

PIERPONT: Oh the indignity of it!
VAN DAM: The effrontery!
GUGGENWALD: De absolute freshness! (Repeats meditatively):
And wouldn't it make us cross
If the boss should die some day?

BISHOP: But did you hear what the ingrates said about the batteries of suspended energy?
GUGGENWALD: Oh, I guess dot's all right. Ve sent Mr. Doolittle to see about it.

SMITH: Yes, and he ain't back yet!
PIERPONT: (Half to himself): And Rose was with him!
SENATOR: Of course, I shall see that Mr. Crimpers has these radical workers expelled from the Morganville Federation of Labor without delay. But I don't understand how they expect to get hold of the batteries. I thought you gentlemen were the only ones who knew where they were. I don't like to say it, sir, but it almost looks as though...
PIERPONT: (interrupting him): I think we can dispense with you, gentlemen, for the time being.

BUNK BROTHERS: Very good, sir. (Exit Bishop, Senator, Judge and General, to left.)
PIERPONT: (talking swiftly): We must get to the bottom of this thing. —Peters will have to be won over.

SMITH, GUGGENWALD and VAN DAM: But how?
PIERPONT: Ernestine! Ernestine must pretend to fall in love with him!
SMITH: That's the idea! The very thing!
PIERPONT: We'll have the secret in less than a week. The fool is already in love with Ernestine and he'll be tickled silly if she even gives him an angry look.

SMITH: You ought to try to get something out of Rose, too, Van Dam. You spend enough time with her—when you can get away from your wife. As a Romeo, you're a little fat and bald-headed, but you have the dough.
PIERPONT: I'll go and talk to Ernestine. We must hurry, for the workmen will soon be here with their day's offering. (Pierpont goes off, right. The other capitalists move the table and chairs to the back. Meanwhile Peters appears in the hallway and advances to the front of the stage without seeing them. He recites, as if to himself.)

PETERS:
This heavy day is done, the quiet dusk is on the world.
And the sun, his watching over, has sunk to rest behind the shadowed hills.
Now from the fields and workshops troop the toilers.
The great weary armies with their hard hands.
They take their way homeward in the purple mists of twilight,
Grouping for peace after the burning hours of duty,
Grouping for beauty after all the pain.

VAN DAM: (grandiloquently):
For others the joy of work and the joy of rest;
For us the empty recompense of profits...
Come, Peters, tell us what riches
God and the workers have produced for us this day.

(Pierpont re-enters, accompanied by Ernestine.)
PIERPONT, SMITH and GUGGENWALD: (in chorus):
Yes, Peters, tell us, pray...
What have we earned this day?

PETERS: The workers shall bring it to you even as Abraham brought his first-born unto the Lord.
PIERPONT: The day's work is evidently over. Brother capitalists, let us wipe our brows of that noble sweat in which we earn our bread. (Capitalists take out handkerchiefs and mop brows carelessly) and prepare to enjoy the fruits of our employers' labor in the evening, praising God, from whom all blessings flow.

PETERS: I'll sound the factory whistle and call the workers in. (He taps at the chain hanging to the left of the hall entrance, and two long, melancholy blasts are heard. He stands looking out through the hall and softly sings):
A bird may sing of drier air,
Bathed in the sun-dried air,
Sing clear and free to bush and tree
And to nature everywhere...
But men hear only the far, cold, lonely
Factory whistles blow,
And know the thrill of that iron call
Bidding them come and go...

(There are two more blasts from the whistle—and then dance blithely in a group of men, women and children of the working class, all being dressed in the manner made famous by Ryan Walker's "Henry Dubb" family cartoons. They look pale, hungry and a trifle feeble-witted. They are bearing all sorts of the necessities of human life—clothing, shoes, fabrics, machines, sheaves of grain, fruits, etc. The housemaids enter with them, and all go through an eccentric dance movement as they sing, as follows):

DUBBS and HOUSEMAIDS:
O, the Henry Dubb leads a grand old life;
He has nothing to do, both he and his wife,
But to keep on working from cradle to grave—
And a hump on his back is all he can save.
But though he be starving and out of a job
He'll have nothing to do with that slack mob—
You CAN'T FOOL HENRY, HE'S SLICK AND HE'S SLY,
AND HE'LL SOAK ANY SOAKALIST WHO TRIES TO TELL HIM WHY.

DUBBS:
G, I'm the Henry,
Housemaids (pointing): He's the Henry.
(To be continued.)

Doings of Charlie and Warren



A confidential conversation between two statesmen.

CHARLIE (at the telephone):
Gamlie! By golly I am glad to know you're living. That dumbell Burns has the wits scared out of us here.

WARREN: What has he done now?
CHARLIE: Why, he gave an interview to the press that you were about to be assassinated. And still worse, he apologized for you in a way that will lose you the votes of the Constitutional Defense League, The Ku Klux Klan, the American Legion, the Socialist Party and the Right Wing of the Proletarian Party. He actually declared that he saw no reason why you should be selected for a sacrifice as you have taken no active part in the campaign against the communists, that is, the Workers' Party.

WARREN: By Gentry Christmas, that is the first I have heard about it. It is rather uncomfortable to know that one is the subject of such a pleasant intention. Has Burns arrested the culprits?
CHARLIE: Oh no! He would not do a thing like that. I believe he will wait until you are assassinated and then he will issue a statement to the effect that he will have the assassin arrested within twenty-four hours and that he knew it was going to happen. But that would be poor consolation for you.

WARREN: Who has he under suspicion?
CHARLIE: Of course. Who else would you think? He has a most fertile brain and can produce a full fledged plot in half an hour—any kind of a plot required. I am told that while he is in mental travail manufacturing one his specialities a clever thief could steal his E. V. D's without arousing him.

WARREN: A very useful man indeed. But tell him not to go off half-cocked. What are the people in the East talking about these days?
CHARLIE: They are discussing the recent Farmer-Labor convention and laughing at the Farmer-Labor Party of Cook County. There is a very peculiar political line-up against the Federated Farmer-Labor Party.

WARREN: What happened to the F. L. P. anyhow?
CHARLIE: It is just like this. Fitzpatrick, Brown, and Buck called a lot of workers and farmers together to form a farmer-labor party with some real farmers in it. Neither of the gentlemen above mentioned could be classed as such. The farmers and the workers came and the city gentlemen seemed to get frightened at the children of the soil? I don't know whether they got hay fever or not but Brown turned white at the prospect; Buck got so excited that he even wrote an editorial for his paper, and Fitzpatrick delivered a long lecture on "Etiquette." The latter was a thesis on the proper conduct of invited guests in a strangers house. The farmers did not like the idea of travelling thousands of miles to drink afternoon tea so they politely asked the hosts to sit down at the political banquet and stop throwing red pepper around.

WARREN: And what happened then?
CHARLIE: Why, the Workers Party crowd that we have worked so hard to isolate made such a good impression on the farmers and the rank and file workers delegates that they got the leadership of the convention. The Executive Committee of the Socialist Party met in session during the convention but they failed to do any harm. The Proletarian Party sent the entire organization there, five of them. They each went away in a rage. The result is now that everybody is lined up against the Federated Farmer-Labor Party except the workers and farmers.

WARREN: As a politician how does the situation look to you?
CHARLIE: It looks like hell! This new outfit depends on the rank and file for success. We know that Gompers, Johnston and the old respectable labor leaders will never organize a labor party. They are all right as they are. Their policy of watchful waiting is a good one—for us fellows. Every real radical in the country will be in the Federated Farmer-Labor Party before long and it means the beginning of the end for us. I am thinking of learning a trade.

WARREN: Have you seen the

Amalgamation or Annihilation for the Shoe Workers

By MICHAEL T. BERRY.

(This is the second of a series of three articles on the shoe industry written specially for the Voice of Labor by Michael T. Berry, of Lynn, Mass. The evils of craft unionism have been amply demonstrated in the shoe industry and Comrade Berry urges all shoes and leather workers to get behind the movement to amalgamate all the workers in this industry into one powerful industrial union. The Voice of Labor urges all shoe workers to take their place in the Amalgamated Shoe Workers Union.—ED.)

This is the story of pure and simple, or craft unionism, as it has worked out in the Boot and Shoe industry after three quarters of a century of "organization," told by one of its victims, who has given his best efforts for forty years to lift the burden of capitalism from the backs of the toilers, not only in the shoe industry, but in all industry.

It is a page of the class struggle wrenched from the book of capitalism, and held up to the shoe workers that its teaching may both enlighten and warn them of their impending fate, before it is too late to avoid an epoch of industrial feudalism, which the employing class, aided by craft unionism through either deliberate crookedness, or hopeless stupidity, are ready to foist upon its gullible victims, the shoeworkers of America.

Evolution of the Industry.
The transformation of the shoe industry from the stage of home manufacture, or hand work, to the stage of modern industry, or machine production, like capitalism itself, practically dates from the period of the Civil War.

Within the memory of living men, and the writer is one of them, machinery in the shoe industry has nearly supplanted hand labor, and specialized to a high degree this entire industry. This specialization has had the effect of wiping out the skill, and the independence as well, of the workers who as shoemakers, were amongst the most independent of craftsmen.

It has made possible that sine quoniam of capitalist success, production in gross. And as labor power under the wage system or capitalism is treated as a commodity, and as the cost of commodities, and it makes no difference whether the commodity is shoes or labor power, is determined by that inexorable law of value, which decrees that "the cost of a commodity is determined by the average amount of socially necessary labor power incorporated in it or necessary for its reproduction," and as there is less socially necessary labor power in the form of food, clothing and shelter needed to produce a specialized attendant of a machine, than is needed to produce the skilled craftsman who performed the entire job himself, that is now done by one hundred and fifty to two hundred "hands" today, the result is obvious to any one who is at all capable of thinking.

A low degree of skill, and a superabundance of bull strength and ignorance has been produced through the operation of that toothsome moral, to the employing class, "supply and demand" and as a result, we find our selves today where there are 200,000 of us trying to accommodate ourselves to 100,000, or at best 150,000 jobs, with the consequent and natural result that in one of the largest of the industries of the United States the workers are constantly dogged by want, or the fear of want.

Early Organization Efforts.
Amongst the earliest of American craftsmen to discern the growing tendencies of the wage system were the Wall Street boys lately?

CHARLIE: Oh, yes. We are having a caucus of the secret circle next week. I cannot give you the address. You could not get there anyhow. There are many important questions to be taken up. Gompers will make the Russian report. Did you know that he is my superior officer in the Russian Department of the Foreign Office?

WARREN: Is that so? Say, I am still president? They don't even show me the courtesy nowadays of notifying me when they make important changes.
CHARLIE: Morgan did not think it necessary to inform you. He knows you have enough on your mind. By the way, go easy on the World Court. Twist it around to make believe you meant something else. Come out for the policy of isolation as if you were the father of it. That is how Lloyd George won his greatest victories. We can learn a lot from our English cousins.

WARREN: Ha! You canny Welshman. Well, I'll think it over, though I hate thinking. It interferes with my golf. I would like to be back again. My lips are blistered kissing babies and I am not sure whether their parent will vote for me or not.
CHARLIE: I'll admit that dealing in futures is not pleasant. Don't lose hope, we might pull through yet. Good-bye.

WARREN: Bye-bye.

so during and immediately following the panic of '73, that "Grape Juice" Bryan loves to talk about, along with the rest of the silver bugs, who affect to believe that labor's disasters all date to '73, and the demonization of silver, as though silver standard countries were not as great exploiters of labor as gold, or any other standard, placing the question on its head instead of its feet, by failing to make clear the fact that the exploitation of the shoeworkers, as well as all other workers is traceable to the private ownership of the land, mills, mines, factories, farms, railroads, etc., by a small class who do not use them, while the majority, the working class, are forced to use them, but do not own them.

Creator of Knights of Labor.
The Knights of Labor was the creation of Uriah S. Stephens, a Philadelphia tailor, and was the first intelligent attempt made to weld the American working class into an irresistible fighting body. Stephens, who was one of those great characters that time now and again produces, spent ten years in working out the program of the K. of L. While traveling in Europe in '39, he made the acquaintance while in London of the man who was the secretary of the International Association of Workmen, which had previously been formed by Marx and Engels, the secretary of which was a Jewish tailor, Geo. J. Eccarius. Eccarius gave Stephens the "Communist Manifesto," the joint product of Marx and Engels, which by that time was gripping the thought of the European workers as well as bothering the midnight sestas of their exploiters and rulers. Stephens, from that Manifesto worked out the program that ten years later was launched under the name of "Noble and Holy Order of the Knights of Labor of North America." That was in '69. It was not until the early '80s that the K. of L. began to grow and attract the attention of American ruling-class, who soon found the way to inject the virus which ultimately ended the K. of L. and ever since has hamstringed the American labor movement under the name of "labor fakir," or as the late Mark Hanna so felicitously called them, "My trusted labor lieutenants."

After the death of the Crispins, and until the coming of the K. of L., the shoe workers were without organization except here and there where some local body was set up. It was during this period, or in '79, that the "Lesters" Protective Union was organized in Lynn, following the big strike of the year previous. This body grew from a local to a national body, and afterwards was merged in the Boot and Shoeworkers' Union, when that body was formed in '95. While the L. P. U. existed, or more properly speaking, while shoes were laced by hand instead of by machin, it won many a wage contest for its members, but with the coming of the machine it was forced down and out, compelled to bow to the inevitable. During the yearly '80s the rank and file of the shoeworkers all over the country began to wake up and turn their attention to organization. For years they had been forced to accept degrading conditions because they had no organization to fall back upon.

Disintegration Begins.
The K. of L. enrolled thousands of them during this period, and continued to do so until after the Richmond Convention of '86, when the K. of L. began to disintegrate. The cause of this disintegration is an interesting story, and should never be lost sight of by the working class in its march to freedom, because it vindicates the poet, who said: "They enslave their children's children; they compromise with sin." If compromise with sin that wreck of the K. of L., the useful organization of the working class to date, and one that had the honor of its founder being followed, have placed us today in the forefront of the militant labor movements of the world, in fact, did that in the '80s. "The compromise with sin" that ended the K. of L. came about the way. For years after the organization of the K. of L. its name was never spoken in public. Stephens was spending his time laying broad and deep, as he thought, the foundation of the organization that he intended to be the emancipator of America.

(To be continued.)

Anthracite Election STA
WILKESBARRE, Pa.—Rinald pellini, elected president of D No. 1, U. M. W. A. over Wm. sun, administration incumbent held his new position without c International President John L. played the role of adjuster at strict convention here. Capelli, elected by the help of the prog wing in the district.
A good rep... is better read has read the Voice of Labor.

The Party Caucus

It is only proper that the Party Caucus begins its discussion with holy things. We have been reading the bible and find that conditions have not changed much since the days when it was written.
Long before Christ, Samson killed 1,000 Philistines with the jaw-bone of an ass.
And today the workers' chances in the are killed by the jaw-bones of any asses.
Speaking of the "fruits of labor"—'t the Federated Farmer-Labor Party a peach?

O. Gosh.
A Canadian professor comes to bat with the statement the whole world will be more or less crazy in the next twenty-five years.

Considering how many votes the old parties get today, we are sure he has miscalculated—by just twenty-five years.
Like in the case of an opern singer comrade, you will find that losing your VOICE is a serious matter. Become a subscriber.

The Little Young Worker Says:
These warm days it's the heat that brings me to the beaches. And the girls in those classy, latest style bathing suits remind me very much of the capitalist system.
The legitimate covering of both is so small—there is an awful lot they can't hide.

I am also in that contest for the \$100,000 offered by Mr. Bok for the most practical plan for peace.
Before sending it in I should like the opinion of the Party Caucus on it. It is short, snappy and an essay of two words only: Abolish Capitalism.
—Brick Layer.

Send in your contributions to the Party Caucus.

The other day one of our party members hustled into the Labor Defense office with a worried expression. Rushing to Morris Loeb he said: "Comrade, I have heard it/seriously said you are a member of the Proletarian Party. Is it true?"
Morris answered in an serious a tone: "No comrade, I have been sick for two weeks—that's why I look that way."

As we sit at our trusty typewriter and pound it and our brain for the ever elusive "wise crack"... a serious idea occurs to us.
Could it be that the Ford for President slogan was brought about by auto-suggestion?

And if Ford becomes a presidential candidate, even the people who haven't money to buy a Ford will get a chance to push a Ford.
Send in your contributions to the Party Caucus.

Harding feels his rip to Alaska was not a great success.
The much talked about Alaskan gold must have looked like small change in comparison to what they dig up in Washington.

—D. A. D.
Our opponents claim the Workers Party "packed" the conference called by the Farmer-Labor Party.
Ay, brother, they packed it—so full of ideas you at last have a real Federa... Labor
WALT CARMON.

TRY A HOE

BOSTON.—If you delight to shave with a Gillette safety razor your pleasures of the early morning may have been dampened of recent days. The steel workers ho manufacture the crisp little hiker chippers have gone on strike demanding some rights as man beings. The workers in the lettuce plant here were unorganized and their strike is unorganized. It is hinted that considerable poor work was done by the kers before they went out and saw a dull and saw edged blade on in the market. The strikes called as a protest against the no and working conditions which the king of barbers ed his men to work.

Workers Party Activities

News of District Number Eight

In our last report in these columns, a little survey was given of our general District activities during the last three months, April, May and June. We shall now report more in detail as to the activities of some of our branches. Beginning with one of our small Chicago English branches, the Northwest Side, it can nevertheless show a record of pretty active work. This branch has 25 members, 15 of which belong to unions and also take active part in the Trade Union Educational League. The average attendance at branch meetings is reported by the secretary to be 18, yet it has often been noted that some of the members are very neglectful, and although having their time well taken up with general party activities, they sometimes forget the great need of building and strengthening the basic Party units.

This branch has attempted to carry on more extensive propaganda work by arranging a lecture every month, and has at least succeeded in somewhat increasing the attendance. Such meetings, however, with a little advertisement, could easily bring in some outsiders, who may be interested in our work. In other propaganda activities this branch has attained better results, for instance the secretary reports that the total literature sold during the three months amount to \$47.00, also 32 new subscribers for the Voice of Labor and 5 for the Labor Herald have been secured by the members, and a great amount of leaflets were distributed.

The branch has admitted four new members and made efforts with fairly good results in impressing upon every member the need of constant work as the only lasting means of building the party. The method pursued is to set aside certain meetings for a verbal report of every member as to their individual activities in other organizations, or in selling literature or securing subscribers for party papers, etc. These individual reports are entered in the quarterly report blanks and the general effect is that all members want to show the best possible record. Branch work is being stimulated in this manner and the members receive a better understanding of their duties and a more intimate knowledge of the problems facing them in the labor world. How-

ever these membership reports have not been carried on as systematically and with as good results in this Northwest Side branch as in some other branches, which we shall enumerate later.

The biggest Chicago Ukrainian branch has now reached a total membership of 56, of which 9 have been admitted during the last three months. This alone proves that the branch has been active. Several of its members have also lately been initiated into unions, now giving a total of 21 union members in the branch. However, not all of them have become active in the Trade Union Educational League, and it should be the duty of the branch to point out to these members that there are many tasks of the progressive union movement, which can be performed by our foreign speaking comrades, despite any language difficulties.

This branch has secured 15 new subscribers to the Voice of Labor, 5 to the Labor Herald and 11 to their own language paper. Many leaflets have been distributed and considerable amount of literature sold. The small Chicago Rumanian branch, which recently affiliated to our party, shows a record of 12 new subscribers to the Voice of Labor, 9 to their own language paper, 3 to other party magazines and out of the total membership of 19 seven belong to unions and are beginning to take active part in the left wing movement. The members in this branch are also particularly active in fraternal organizations of their language, where they carry on an intensive struggle against yellow socialist influences.

Report of district news in the past have shown that practically all of our foreign speaking branches have been actively engaged in our big party campaigns, such as the Labor Party campaign. The increase in numbers of those who join unions, and become active in the T. U. E. L. as well as the interest taken in spreading the Voice of Labor, the Worker and party literature in general gives ample proof that progress is steadily being made in bringing our party activities up to party requirements.

Accounts of activities of other branches throughout our district will be given in subsequent reports.

Russian Reply Given Gompers by Brookhart

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Soviet Russia has fewer scabs than the American labor movement has to contend with, United States Senator Smith-W. Brookhart of Iowa declared in the course of a categorical reply to Samuel Gompers' eight questions on Russia.

Brookhart urged immediate recognition of Russia, declaring it has a government which is here to stay and is "as white as snow," compared with the government of the Czar, which enjoyed full American recognition.

President Gompers put his questionaire to Senators King and Ladd, who left for Russia a few days ago. Brookhart returned from Moscow a few days ago, following a trip through the Soviet government.

The Iowa senator sided with the Soviets in practically every question raised by President Gompers. The questions and answers follow:

No. 1. Is there a free press in Russia, are opposition papers allowed to exist, and is there a censorship of the official press and of foreign correspondents?

"The Russian press is practically free," said Senator Brookhart. "The opposition to the government is negligible. No one wants to start an opposition paper. It would receive no support. Peasants and laboring people are all united for the present government. No decent foreign correspondent is censored. So long as he does not attempt untruthful propaganda there is no censorship."

2. Are workmen permitted to organize and to what extent may they criticize the government and working conditions?

"The workmen are organized and there are very few 'scabs,' such as Mr. Gompers encounters here. When he gets mad a workman may cuss the government there just as he does here. But it is a workman's government and the laboring classes are 99.9-10 percent in favor of the existing government, and they are all in the unions."

3. Is it true that the leading officials of the Soviet government and Communist party of the Third International are the same persons?

"I didn't even hear the Third International mentioned over there. It is not an organization at all and you seldom if ever hear anything said about it."

4. To what extent is the government supporting the Third International or permitting its propaganda hostile to other governments?

"The Soviets put out propaganda

only against governments and peoples that put out propaganda against them. They attempt only to meet propaganda with propaganda, which is quite natural and human. Incidentally the Soviets, all the way through from Trotsky and Lenin to the peasants, are friendly toward the United States and its institutions. Colonel Haskell and the American Relief Commission deserve a great deal of credit for this."

5. If it is true, as claimed individually and unofficially, that the Russian government no longer is a strictly Communist organization, but is now almost a model of such republics as the United States, why does not the Soviet government actually change its character to conform to such declaration?

"They have changed their economic policy and officially published the fact that there has been a change from the communist to the co-operative principle, along the principle of the Rochdale co-operative system in the English mills. That principle is well understood. It is one man, one vote. Capital does not vote its power; excess profits are distributed back among the producers thereof. This co-operative form of government is being gradually put into effect and has been officially declared. I have a copy, in Russian, of the declaration."

"However, I do not like the election system, which savors too much of our own old-fashioned Republican standpat caucuses. They hold town meetings and select Bill Jonesky to go as a delegate to the Soviet district-convention. At that convention Bill Smithsky may be selected as delegate to the state convention and at the state convention they name a delegate to go to the national convention at Moscow, and when he gets there he votes to elect Lenin as premier and so on. It's the old standpat caucus arrangement which we have had here, and I'm against that. There is one other unfair thing—they do not allow the Czarists, the old intellectuals, to vote at all."

6. If the Soviets are willing to acknowledge Russia's legitimate foreign obligations, why do they not definitely, at least in principle, go on record to such effect?

"The Soviet government will acknowledge the Czar's debts at any time the United States and other countries will acknowledge Soviet claims against them for assisting counter revolution in Russia. These counter revolutions, they say, cost

enormous losses in property and lives and were encouraged by foreign nations, including our own. Because of this they claim that we owe them just as much as Germany owes France. I was informed by a shipping man who knew, that we sent guns, ammunition and supplies to the counter revolutionists and so did other nations. They refer to the Wrangle, Denekin and Kolchak armies, and if there is one thing the Soviets hate it is the memory of such assistance to these counter revolutionists."

7. Gompers' seventh question related to the broken promises of the Soviets and alleged strained relations existing today between Russia and several nations that had restored official relations, such as Turkey, Finland, Czechoslovakia, Latvia and Poland.

"Russia has no strained relations with Turkey and none with Czechoslovakia," said Senator Brookhart. "About Finland and Latvia I do not know. In Poland there is bitter feeling against Russia and this is reciprocated in Russia. However, I asked Polish bankers and business men if they wanted the old czarist system back, and they said they preferred the present government in Russia."

"Russia's trouble with Great Britain was over the 12-mile international line at sea, and in this Russia was right. I would like to see our three-mile limit extended to 24 miles, and then we'd stop rum smuggling. We have the power to do it, too, by simply giving notice. Newspaper reports about Russia not keeping her agreements are mostly propaganda."

8. Is it the intention of American visitors in Russia to be the Soviets' guests? Even if a part of expenses are paid by themselves, are they to travel on "guest trains" and stop at "guest hotels" and to visit only "guest" farms, schools, factories, and so on?

"The so-called 'guest house' in Russia is a hotel. I stopped at one for five days and paid a bill of more than four billion rubles, exactly 4,167,000,000 rubles, for five days' rooming and six meals. There are no guest trains. I travelled on a common train, along with peasants and other folks. The trains were clean and in good order; the roadbeds are good in the main and are being repaired after their war damage. Ninety per cent of Russian railroads are in operation and the trains are on time to the minute. They are building their own locomotives for the first time."

TAYLOR OF DETROIT WINS IN FREE TRIP TO RUSSIA CONTEST.

NEW YORK, (F. S. R. Service).—Extension of the Tractor Drive as announced being prohibited by the Post Office, the first drive closed June 30 and John T. Taylor, president of the Detroit Federation of Labor, was the successful candidate who gets the trip to Russia. Thirty other prizes have been awarded to date. Detroit workers are jubilant over their victory and are now entering the second contest, which began July 1st and will continue until October 1st.

Terms for the second contest are precisely the same as for the first. Detailed information can be obtained from the office of the Friends of Soviet Russia.

COMMUNISTS WINNING IN GERMAN TRADE UNIONS.

BERLIN, July 24.—In the elections held throughout Germany of delegates to the forthcoming Metalworkers' Congress at Cassel the returns show that the Communists are winning all along the line and that the Social Democrats everywhere are in the minority.

There have been many abstentions from voting, however, particularly in Berlin, where only 40 per cent of the metalworkers cast ballots.

DUESSELDORF, July 24.—The Communist Freiheit says that the Rhenish and Westphalian metalworkers have voted by a two-third majority in favor of the Moscow International.

CLOTHING PACKAGE SERVICE DISCONTINUED BY FRIENDS OF SOVIET RUSSIA.

NEW YORK, July 18th, 1923.—The Friends of Soviet Russia announce that after August 1st they will no longer accept applications for transmission of private clothing parcels to Russia.

All packages accepted up to that date will be promptly transmitted and recipients' acknowledgments duly furnished. The Petrograd office of the Workers' International Relief Committee informed the 'Friends of Soviet Russia' some time ago that the first shipments of private clothing packages had been received and were being distributed to the individual addressees.

There are Many Ways of Disposing of a Cat

(By Our Missouri Correspondent.)
KANSAS CITY, Mo.—Dr. Hoare Smith, who passed through here recently, gave an interesting talk to a small group on "Humoring the State." He maintains that class-conscious workers on jury or similar work should learn the foibles and quaint freaks of the law and refrain from violating them. He was on a jury once to try a striker for the death of a scab. The state has carefully prescribed for what cause the prisoner is to be acquitted, to wit: lack of identification, unreliability of identifying witness, (police, detectives and other professional perjurers) etc. Some impressionists insist on dwelling on such irrelevant issues as the constitutionality of killing scabs, etc. This only alienates the scissorbills on the jury. The state provides expensive machinery to say just how he shall be acquitted, so why not comply with its infantile whims? Dr. Smith convinced the jury that this man was a virtuous and worthy head of a household and was miles away at the time the late lamented left us. He contrasted with such effective work the quixotic attitude of the first juror called in the Ruthenberg case, who avowed himself opposed to the Michigan gag law—and so left his place on the jury to be filled by an open-shopper and labor hater. The doctor maintains that it is the duty of the poor or give them fat verdicts in criminal cases and that as good, law-abiding citizens they should acquit the poor or give them fat verdicts on the grounds that the law prescribes. Find out what the law is (the poor man's lawyer will tell you in his argument) and then see that the facts are as he desires them to be. If you dislike capital punishment, get on the jury and then make sure that the facts of this case don't warrant such punishment—don't say: "No, I oppose the death penalty" and leave your place to less sensitive folk. Such tactics compel the rich man to expend one of his arbitrary challenges or else accept you as juror—and either alternative weakens his position. The quixotic attitude enables him to "challenge for cause" and he is no worse off for your participation. If you get on the jury by refraining from shocking the scissorbills, you may secure a acquittal: if you alienate them, you will have more difficulty. The avers juror is easily persuaded and a determined and tactful man can be sure he will have his own way, if he is willing to wait and wheedle patient for two or three days. At the very worst he can always secure a hung jury. In a "red" case, dwell on the expense of the county of such cases, say you should discourage them by acquittals—use all arguments that will appeal to scissorbills. It was an interesting and profitable talk.

Judge Fleming of Kan., Mo. Holds His Job

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—K. C. is still seething about the activities of Judge Fleming. The worthy judge went on a pre-Volstead excursion two weeks ago, got drunk capsized his car, crushing his girl friend underneath it. He removed license tags and beat it. The girl died before help arrived.

Judge Fleming, "by the advice of counsel," was "too ill" to go before the coroner for several days, hoping the storm would blow over. The two civilians whose offer to help had been refused, the judge saying no one was hurt, testified he was drunk. The police who hail from the same Emerald Isle as the judge all swore he was sober. The coroner's jury censured him severely.

Young Workers Offers Subscription Premium

As has been announced in another column of this paper, The Young Worker, official organ of The Young Workers League of America, has increased its retail price, beginning with the October issue, to fifteen cents.

The subscription price, beginning with the December issue, will be \$1.25 per year.

However, to permit all comrades to subscribe at once, a special offer is being made. Until December, the subscription price will remain at \$1.00. Those comrades subscribing at the \$1.00 rate between now and the December issue, will have an opportunity to save, if they have been purchasing The Young Worker from month to month, seventy cents. In addition, with every subscription they may obtain a free copy of Bishop Wm. M. Brown's excellent booklet, "Communism and Christianity."

Comrades! As communists we are good economists. Let us see you make use of your knowledge by subscribing to The Young Worker, the only revolutionary youth organ in America. Address: The Young Worker, 2817 Fullerton Ave., Chicago, Ill.

ST. LOUIS.—L. K. England, Moline, Ill., has just arrived here with his family to assume the duties of secretary, local branch, Workers Party. The new secretary is a member of the machinists' union. The Workers' Party has established new headquarters in Fraternal Building, Eleventh Street and Franklin Ave.

fire the boilers while the Kloecks drank booze on the first deck?

The German government has arranged with the Soviet government for the delivery by the latter of 400,000 tons of grain to Germany before November, part payment for which will be taken in German industrial products.

The "Young Worker" to Advance Price

(Workers Party Press Service.)

The Young Worker, official organ of the Young Workers League of America, will sell for fifteen cents per copy, commencing with the October issue. The increased price is necessary if The Young Worker is to maintain its present high standard. In the past few months the cost of publishing the paper has been increased by one-third, and The Young Worker has been published at a loss. Increased reading matter, and, it may be said, very good matter, has been furnished the readers. Many features have been added, such as two color covers, many pictures and cartoons, and other features, which add to the attractiveness of a magazine or a paper.

Rather than cut the size of the paper and eliminate the added features, the only alternative, The Young

Worker is confidently relying upon its readers to support the paper at the increased price, and to secure new readers, so as to maintain the paper's standard.

The Young Communist International says of The Young Worker: "It has an attractive and original character . . . a rather high political-literary character."

That is well, but The Young Worker is striving in addition to become a living, militant paper of the masses of the working class youth in the shop and on the farm. The Young Worker will become such an organ if the financial support is rendered it.

Support the revolutionary youth press in America—the young communist organ, The Young Worker!

For subscriptions and bundle orders address: The Young Worker, 2517 Fullerton Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Y. W. L. Activities

Despite the intense heat the educational work of the League is progressing with increased attendance at all our branch meetings. During the month of August the following lectures will be delivered at Y. W. L. branches:

Englewood, August 8. An interesting discussion will take place on "Value, Price and Profit," one of Karl Marx's best known books.

Maplewood, August 9. Comrade Schaefer will give an analysis of the American form of government.

West Side, August 10. Comrade Schaefer will deliver the same lecture as that given at the Maplewood.

Outing and Hike.

An outing and hike is being arranged by the Brighton Park and Bridgeport branches of the League to take place Sunday, August 5, at Jefferson Woods. Many liberal and progressive organizations on the South Side are co-operating with the Y. W. L. and a big crowd is expected to come out. Directions: Take the Milwaukee-Gale car to end of line and meet the crowd at 11 A. M.

General Membership Meeting. A general membership meeting of the Young Workers League will be

held Tuesday, August 14 at the Ashland Auditorium (small hall), Van Buren and Ashland Aves. The question of Shop Nuclei will be discussed, comrade John Edwards leading the discussion. The demonstration on International Youth Day will also be taken up.

Coming League Events.

September 2. International Youth Day, demonstration at Kolzes Electric Park, 6400 Irving Park Blvd.

October 2. Halloween Party and Entertainment at Division Hall, Division St. and Western Ave.

Press Picnic.

On August 25. The Workers Party annual Press Picnic will be held at Riverview Park.

The "Young Worker," our national organ is among the papers entered and will receive a share of the proceeds. Out of every ticket sold by the Y. W. L. of Chicago twenty-five cents will go to the Young Worker. Tickets will be distributed among the branches and the comrades are urged to do their best in selling them.

Branch publicity managers are requested to send in news of their branch's activities to MARTIN GORDON, City Publicity Mgr., Room 307, 165 W. Washington St.

Workers Welcome Federated Party

(Continued from page 1.)

Others are still groping in darkness, in the hands of capitalistic bosses. It is worse than nonsense for any one to imagine that conditions on the farms and in the industrial centers of this nation will be changed by existing politicians in either of the old parties. Those people have been tried and found lacking in the elements of decency and self-respect, while under the spell of capitalistic imperialism and subject to the mandates of bosses who own, control and operate the political machines.

The founders of the Federated Farmer-Labor Party are not capitalists. They do not claim God-given privileges of public office-holding because of being in possession of money obtained from questionable sources. They are not to be rated as big business-builders, working the public for all it is worth. For the first time in the history of our own country the common people, the real builders, the actual taxpayers and the people who make the city and country, are being organized for political action.

Our present plan does not attempt the work of remedying all the evils the people suffer from as the direct result of the old political partisanship, for that is an undertaking too stupendous for man to go into training for abatement; but we do expect that by presenting an organized front of millions of earnest men and women,

interested in the cause of humanity, putting human life ahead of money, that we will succeed in eliminating some of the graft, greed and vice in high places and eventually make this nation what it should be, "a government of the people, for the people and by the people."

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Editorial Page of the Voice of Labor



A Popular Fellow

Sir Benito Mussolini, knighted by the imbecile monarch of Great Britain, is quite a popular boy. The path to his office is now as popular as the way to a protected moonshine parlor. He is the favorite of kings and presidents, capitalists and capitalist henchmen. He is praised by the pite press as the only statesman in Europe who had the courage to take the "red menace" by the throat and leave it unconscious on the political highway. His little diversion with free speech is regretted, but a thorough bred war horse must be allowed to prance around a bit.

Americans do not like a dictatorship of the Soviet brand, a dictatorship of the workers, but the Italian brand, that of the black shirted bandits of capitalism is all right. Our capitalist papers soft-pedal tales of terror in Italy, while their paid liars are busy concocting fables about life under Soviet rule.

Secretary of Labor Davis is in Italy, perhaps making arrangements to supply Elbert Gary's steel mills with Fascisti labor. He lauded the great Mussolini and declared the result was satisfactory. He anti-Fascisti Alliance of America no doubt will keep a watchful eye on the deal between Davis and Mussolini. We believe it bodes evil for the American workers. A supply of black shirted cutthroats from Italy would be just what Gary would like at this moment. It is significant that among the suggestions made by Davis was that Italian immigrants should go through the red tape or selective process in Italy. Under this rule the spy system of the Fascisti would enable the Steel Trust to sort out the labor supply and select the desirables from the undesirables, that is the Blacks from the Reds.

In Again, Out Again

Mr. George Wilson of Oklahoma, who is reported in the capitalist press to stand on the same intellectual level as Magnus Johnson of Minnesota, was recently installed as president of Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College, accompanied by a small army of troops. His election to that exalted office was protested by the American Legion and other organizations not noted for their love for the preamble to the American constitution. Governor Walton of Oklahoma was supported in his recent successful campaign for the governorship by Wilson, and in recognition of his service the governor appointed two members of the Farmer-Labor Reconstruction League to the State Board of Agriculture. It was their votes that elected Wilson.

Since then, however, the governor saw the folly of his ways. Being elected and not under the control of any workingclass political party, he can do as he sees fit, so he turned around and by executive order removed the two appointees who made a college president out of Wilson. This means that Wilson will follow them out into the hot sun.

We might add that Governor Walton is a friend of labor. *Not so.*

New York longshoremen went on strike for an increase in wages and as usual the local agent of the shipping bosses, one gentleman by the name of Ryan, who happens to be an official of the International Longshoremen's Association, got busy at once driving the men back to work. Failing in that, scabs began to arrive from Brooklyn and they proudly flaunted the A. F. of L. button on their caps. Yet these buzzards denounce good union men as "borers from within" and "disrupters," who are trying to oust the scab-herding sewer rats from control of the unions. The reactionary tools of Gompers in the American Federation of Labor are the worst enemies of the American workers—not the capitalists. The latter are open enemies while the former pose as friends. Until the workers wake up and give them the bum's rush, there will be no protection for them under the banner of the American Federation of Labor.

If you have any doubt about Hen' Ford running for president, read the following and throw your doubts overboard.

DETROIT, Mich.—As his yacht drifted about Grand Traverse Bay recently Henry Ford looked up from a belated copy of a Detroit newspaper. With tears in his eyes he rose and went to the wireless room. He had been reading about Katherine Gorka, who was in jail awaiting trial for shooting and killing her husband, Frank. Gorka had bought an automobile with the money which his wife was saving for a home and had threatened to leave her and their three children.

"Tell my office in Dearborn," Mr. Ford instructed the radio operator, "to supply bail in any amount and let that woman out of jail."

Ford representatives rushed to the prosecuting attorney's office to do his bidding, but they found that Mrs. Gorka had already been freed under a \$10,000 bond, supplied by friends.

Or—perhaps the husband was a Hebrew banker.

The American Empire is having difficulties selling the virtues of the American brand of democracy to the Philipinos. General Wood, the famous ivory soap candidate of Colonel Proctor, is a "washout" in the opinion of Manuel Quezon, the patriotic Philipino. It seems that the last straw that broke the elephant's back was the reinstatement of one of the general's stoolpigeons, who was freed by the native officials. The Philipinos are perverse enough to believe that the American government is there not for the good of the natives, but for ulterior motives. How suspicious these liberated people are!

Col. C. W. Willoughby, of the American Relief Administration, returning from Moscow, declared that there is no prospect of the let Government being overthrown. The world must recognize Asia, he said. This is bad news for the yellow socialists, the r fakers and the capitalist system.

E. Page, well known Chicago detective, was recently picked up in suspicion in Omaha in connection with a series of bank rans. Previous to his coming to Chicago he was for a number ars head of the Page Detective Agency of Milwaukee. The Detective Servie is now handicapped in its task of running evil doers, owing to the incarceration of its head for blowing bank safes.

The Crucifixion of Labor



British Plot Against Persia

By ANISE

(Fed. Press Staff Correspondent)

MOSCOW.—The secret report of a British spy published in the Moscow press shows what are the British interests in Persia which Curzon in his ultimatum accuses the Russians of attacking. Incidentally, it shows the far-sighted wisdom of the Russian government in not creating a soviet Persia when, according to British groups on the ground, they might easily have done so.

Captain Noel, who writes the letter, was a British secret agent, who had been a spy on Russian territory, and was interned and then released. He writes June 6, 1921, a few months after the red army drove the British out of Baku and northern Persia. He is asking for a job from Sir Percy Cox, English commissioner in Mesopotamia, on the ground that there is no real work for him any more in Tcheran.

"I was sent to Persia," he writes, "by the British ministry of foreign affairs in January, when it seemed that after the fall of our army there would follow a Bolshevik upheaval and the organization of a soviet government, which would leave our hands free in the south."

This last reference is explained later in the letter, where it becomes clear the British wanted to split off southern Persia into a southern federation, "giving over to its government the income from the southern Persian oil"—thus insuring a British belt all the way across southern Asia to India.

They courted on the support of the southern Khans, who were expected to turn to Britain as soon as a soviet government in the capital of Persia threatened their local lordship. But, complains the letter, instead of going forward the Bolsheviks left. According to their opinion, a soviet Persia

would be a prematurely forced position. Their policy consists in trying to preserve a unified Persia and to forestall at any cost the building of a southern federation out of lands untouched by their propaganda."

Captain Noel admits sadly that the Bolsheviks have been so decent the Persians that there isn't a chance of building that British southern federation. He still advocates however, "the organization of a Bachtaria police under the command of British officers," and says that the southern Khans are many of them eager for it, "so great is their fear of Bolshevism." This police was to be "for the purpose of strengthening our position and to prepare the ground for the Southern Federation, as soon as southern Persia will be sovietized, which event our mission considers inevitable."

That was the British game—the partition of Persia. It was based on the belief that the Bolsheviks would take what they could get, and that this would open the way for a southern revolt under British guidance. But the Bolsheviks didn't take that they could get. They withdrew their army after defeating the British, at Enzoli and went home again to the north.

Russia didn't care to carve up the little nations, in order that she might get half. She preferred a nonsoviet, but friendly border state to an extended territory and an armed frontier with England.

It wasn't altruism, but plain sense. Just a preference for harmony and peace instead of territory. That, all the way through, is Russia's policy in Asia. And not in Asia only, but along the Polish and Rumanian, and Latvian borders, as the treaties she has made give evidence.

ANTI-RUSS WIRES GET TWISTED

By CARL HAESSLER
(Fed. Press Staff Correspondent.)

CHICAGO.—The grand general staff of the anti-Russian propaganda army is getting its communication wires twisted. There is a mixup in the many divisions of its army and the newspaper corps are no longer co-ordinating.

Almost on the same day one finds complete contradictions between the Chicago Daily News foreign service and the Chicago Tribune foreign "news" service.

The Tribune a few months ago ostentatiously withdrew George Seldes as its correspondent from Russia on the plea that the censorship by the Russian government made the correspondents nothing but unwilling propaganda agents of sovietism.

The Daily News' Moscow correspondent, F. A. Mackenzie, who was until a short time ago the Associated Press representative there, wires a different story. In a special cable dated July 20, Mackenzie writes:

"Since I have been in Russia (nearly two years) I have succeeded in transmitting in one way or another every piece of information I have considered to have an interest for the public outside. Other correspondents say they have done the same. We have criticized freely and have denounced abuses and have sent out much matter that has been opposed to the soviet point of view."

Hardly had the Daily News pressed rolled out the editions containing this acknowledgment that any correspondent can get through whatever news he considers of interest than along comes the Tribune with an im-pressive old newspaper fake.

The Tribune of July 24 contains a long anti-Russian copyrighted dispatch dated "Somewhere in Europe." It closes with a statement in italics that "the identity and whereabouts of the Tribune's Russian correspondents are withheld to protect them from the Cheka."

Who the Trib's correspondents are and where they hang out will probably be evident from another paragraph of Mackenzie's Daily News dispatch. Mackenzie says:

"White (counter revolutionary) Russians, having failed militarily, morally and politically, are trying to recover their losses by circulating fantastic tales about present-day life in Russia. They have organized a propagandist news bureau at Helsingfors, with branches elsewhere, which send to the press of Europe a mass of Russian fiction bearing no possible relation to the truth."

"As part of their campaign the white Russians systematically refer to the permanent foreign correspondents in Russia as tools or agents of the soviet government, who are hoodwinked, cajoled, corrupted or terrified by the bolsheviki."

"My experience during nearly two years of residence in Russia shows such charges to be absolutely unjustified."

Michigan Fed. Convention September 18th

DETROIT.—"The annual convention of the Michigan State Federation of Labor at Detroit Sept. 18 will be a record breaker for attendance," declares the executive board. "We are now hitting our stride. Labor has quite successfully entered the political arena, interest is being manifested in the co-operative movement in more quarters than heretofore, more interest is shown in legislative work in the practical way of studying laws and numbers are interesting themselves in the detail work of law making. This tends to produce an interest that makes for substantial gains in the convention."

Illinois Fed. Convention on September 10th

CHICAGO.—"We expect about 700 delegates to our 41st annual convention," says Victor A. Olander, secretary Illinois State Federation of Labor. "That will be about the same as the Rockford convention last year. Decatur is making big preparations for the affair, which will be staged in the Y. M. C. A. annex there."

Affiliated local unions are entitled to one delegate for every 100 members, affiliated central bodies to three delegates irrespective of the size of the central body. No proxies are allowed.

Among the Magazines

The Labor Herald

The August number of this authoritative labor publication maintains the high standard of excellence that has given the Labor Herald the reputation of being the best monthly labor magazine in the United States. It is to the trade union militant what the compass is to the mariner. It is both a teacher and a guide. An article by Foster on the Federated Farmer-Labor Party and one by Earl Browder on the Farrington-Lewis hatchet burying act are sure to be read with interest. The magazine sells for 15 cents per copy and can be secured at 103 No. La Salle Street, Chicago, Ill.

The Young Worker

The motto of this publication seems to be "Every month we are getting better and better." This may be old stuff but Coue was a good advertising man and if he can be of any assistance in getting the Young Worker into the hands of more readers we will not disdain his lead. The Young Worker is the official organ of the Young Workers' League that live bunch that made even Samuel the First of the American Federation of Labor sit up and take notice. While it is published for the benefit of the young workers it can be read with advantage by old and young and is in every way creditable to our young comrades. Our comrades in the Language Federations could not assist in the work of laying the foundation for a powerful Communist Party in America in any better way than by placing a copy of this magazine in the hands of their children. It can be secured at a cost of 10 cents a copy at 2517 Fullerton Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

The Irish People

Some of our readers may think, judging by the name, that this is a nationalist publication extolling the green fields of Erin and pointing to the over representation of Irishmen on the police force as an indication that the Irish can rule all other people only themselves. One will quickly be jolted out of such a vicious pipe dream after looking inside the sea green cover of the second number to find an honest-to-goodness revolutionary magazine staring him in the eye. The name and the cover will attract the kind of attention that the wily publishers are looking for—and they

Australian Labor Party Admits Communists

From the "Australian Worker."

The decision of the A. L. P. Conference of New South Wales to admit believers in Communism to membership of the A. L. P. stirred the capitalistic daily press to the foundations of its being. Its howls became so clamorous and so palpably hypocritical that the public began to accept the pose as the joke of the political season.

In the first place, the capitalistic press has no standing in the Labor Movement, and when it howls against any labor proposal it may almost be taken for granted that the proprietors of these papers think they are going to be hit on a tender place—somewhere in the vicinity of the pocket.

The Communist is a perfectly sane, logical and rational being who believes in community ownership of property. He is the advocate of the "whole hog" for the producers of the nation's wealth. He may be a long way ahead of present-day opinion, even in the ranks of the workers, but the workers should be the last class to turn him down.

Capitalists, of course, hate Communists with a deadly hatred, because if the Communists become numerous enough to capture the political machine, and take the reins of office, the idle capitalist will have to take a back seat and disgorge much of his ill-acquired wealth. But that is no reason why the underpaid and

sweated wage-earner should get excited.

The Communists are numerically insignificant, and are not likely to command control of the labor organization, so it would have been supreme folly to exclude them as individuals from the movement merely because they want to give the workers what they believe them to be justly entitled.

The Labor Movement need not worry about the advanced men who come into its ranks. A much more dangerous and insidious element are the reactionary sentimentalists who join the Movement without a real sympathy for its ideals and objectives. Labor has passed the stage of mere humanitarianism. To sympathize with the "under dog," without desiring to revolutionize the system which makes him possible, is not sufficient.

Labor to-day does not ask for pity and sympathy. It pleads for economic justice. It declares with all the vehemence at its command that the men who have usurped control of industry are making a vicious and selfish use of their power—to the serious detriment of the community.

There are philanthropic employers and brutal employers, but labor says that there should be no employers—that all should be workers for the common and good and well-being of humanity.

LAW IN MISSOURI.

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—The police commissioners recently issued a bulletin to their patrolmen, saying that they had no right to enter a house without a search warrant. It does not expressly except workers homes but that is understood of course. I argued this point with the last delegation of finks that came for me. They replied: "We need no warrant. You're only a worker and the chief thinks you're a Red." Since the poor worms were very nervous and were armed, I was silent. A brave man's conduct can be anticipated, but no man can be sure what a coward will do.

Alabama Convict Leasing System

By JOSEPH W. LEIGH.

(Fed. Press Staff Correspondent.)

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—Alabama has 3,000 prisoners and 50% are released to the coal mining companies. The convicts are given four classifications, according to their ability. The state receives \$93 a month for class A prisoners, and \$63 for those in class D. During the past four months the profits accruing to the state has amounted to \$845,000.

While the whipping trap has been abolished greater cruelties are practiced. One of these is the "doghouse," a coffin shaped box so small that a man cannot move inside it, in which the convicts are fastened by their hands, their feet barely touching the floor.

The convict mines in this state average four deaths a year, while the free mines had only one death in each four mines last year.

The lower house of Alabama legislature has just voted table further discuss convict leasing system.